tame, owing to the uncertain and cold weather. Mr and Mrs George Gould, Mr and Mrs Henry Cotterill and Miss Ronalds, Mr and Mrs Heaton Rhodes and the Misses Gerard were among those who visited the polo ground in spite of the damp.

On Monday evening a

DINNER AND PRESENTATION

took place in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of the departure of Mr George Humphreys (Fletcher, Humphreys and Co.), who leaves for America by the outgoing mail—on business of course—and it will also be a holiday, a much-needed one, for Mr Humphreys is a good citizen as well as an energetic business man. During the evening he was presented with a very handsome silver-mounted stick, suitably inscribed.

On Tuesday afternoon a little crowd assembled in the Park to watch a

DRILL COMPETITION

for a Cup between the Boys' High School and the College. Mr and Mrs Brown, Mr and Mrs Andrews and Miss Townend, Mr and Mrs C. Cook, Mr and Mrs Boyle, Mr and Mrs Ernest Tanner were among those present.

On the same afternoon Mrs Irving gave a

SMALL AFTERNOON TEA

in honour of her daughter, Mrs Willis (Southbridge), who is in town with her children for a few weeks. Tea, talk, and a little music soon evaporated the afternoon. Mrs Murray-Aynsley, Mrs Henry Wood, Mrs Hutton, Misses Ainger, Ross, Grigg, Meeson, Fulton, and several others were present.

To-day Mrs Julius has a large afternoon tea for girls and young people to meet Miss Tolhurst, of Wellington, who is at present their guest.

OUR FOLK.

A great number of people are out of town, which adds to the depression of the dull weather. Mrs George Harris and her sister are at Sumner with their children, as also are Mrs and Miss Foster, Mrs and Miss Maling. Mrs Nicholls (White Rocks). The Misses Hewitt are staying at New Brighton, and Mr and Mrs Hewitt are away in Dunedin; the Misses Buckley are camping out near Arden Forest with a party of girls. Miss D. Roberts is in Sydney, where we are sorry to hear she has been very ill with rheumatic fever.

Mrs and Miss M. Webb returned from Sydney this week, looking immensely better for the change. Miss C. Hargreaves returned from Wellington on Sunday in the 'Ionic' after a gay holiday.

Mrs Mellish, Riccarton, has issued cards for a dance on December 5th.

We are looking forward with intense pleasure to the opening of the Brough and Boucicault season on the 4th. Rumour says we shall see some marvellous dresses, and that, added to the delightful acting of Mr and Mrs Brough, is a treat in store.

We are all so glad Mr and Mrs Burns will still be with us under the new Bank *régime*. They would be such a loss musically and socially (but it was quite a relief to hear of Mr Burns' satisfactory appointment under the new management.

Mr and Mrs Ernest Tanner (Napier) are staying with Mr and Mrs A. Boyle, Latimer Square.

DOLLY VALE.

DUNEDIN.

DEAR BEE, NOVEMBER 30.

THE BROUGH AND BOUCICAULT COMPANY

end their season here to-night. I hope for their sakes that it has been a most lucrative one. Everyone here will be very sorry when they are gone, as the Company was very much appreciated. Wednesday being Cup Day, there was a bumper house. Among I noticed present were Mesdames Kettle, Reynolds, Dalgetty, (Christchurch), Jowitt, Hales, Stephenson, Graham, Sise, Dennistoun (Oamaru), Thomson, Theomin, Smith (Balclutha), Gibson, Cohen, Ogston, Cutten, Ridings, Wise, Neill, Butterworth, Tower, Ferguson, Turnbull (Linburn Station), Dowling, Hosking, Cunningham, Smith, Ritchie, Misses Cameron, Gibson, C. Gibson, MacLaren, E. MacLaren, Sise, M. Sise, Reid, C. Reid, M. Reid (Oamaru), Graham, P. Graham, Harding, E. Harding (Welling on), Richardson, Johnston (Wellington), Roberts, Stephenson, Mills, Buller, Webster, H. Webster, Cutten, Reynolds, R. Reynolds, Ramsay, Bell (Wantood), Cargill, A. Cargill, and many others—too numerous to mention.

On Wednesday, the 27th,

CUP DAY,

the weather was simply glorious. The streets were thronged with people on their way to the racecourse; in fact, every vehicle was packed to excess. It was all one could do to manage to get out to the races at all. Arriving on the course the scene was extremely bright. All the ladies seemed to have turned out in their new summer attire. I am sure every colour of the rainbow was to be seen on the lawn and in the grandstand. I will give you a list of dresses I thought particularly striking, viz., Mrs A. Turnbull, in a stylish dress of sage green crepon, the bodice flowered with silk and heavily trimmed with passementerie insertion, dainty toque of pink roses; Mrs Finclair Thomson, blue crepon skirt, silk blouse, black hat with feathers and flowers; Mrs Boyd, black crepon, lace mantle edged with jet, black bonnet; Miss Smith (Balclutha), black crepon dress, handsome silk mantle, black bonnet with buttercups; Mrs McMaster (Tokaraka), tailor-made fawn jacket and skirt, black brocade waistcoat, simple black chip hat; Mrs Ritchie, pink spotted muslin much trimmed with crown satin ribbon, brown bonnet trimmed with shot ribbon; Mrs MacLean, handsome black brocade, black corded silk mantle, black bonnet with flowers; Mrs Lintott, grey checked tweed, waistcoat of grey bengaline silk, dainty black bonnet with pink roses; Mrs Cudlaw (Clyde), grey and pink flecked cloth lavishly trimmed with silk passementerie, tiny burnt straw bonnet; Mrs Kettle, stylish navy blue cloth jacket and skirt, small toque trimmed with white flowers; Mrs Wright, blue serge, black hat with cornflowers; Mrs Stephenson, black brocade, floral bonnet; Mrs Carew, stylish light brown crepon, full waistcoat of brown chiffon, large brown hat trimmed with pink carnations; Mrs Townsend, brown crepon trimmed with shot silk, small brown toque; Mrs Grierson, black, bonnet to match; Miss Reid, black serge jacket and skirt, electric blue cloth vest; Miss Coast, black satin trimmed with blue ribbon; Miss Wright, black crepon, full vest, spaulettes and blue silk trimmings, large black hat trimmed with blue; Miss C. Reid, stylish pink spotted muslin, large white hat trimmed with white ostrich feathers and pink roses; Miss N. Reid, blue cloth jacket and skirt, blue felt hat; Mrs Webster, black crepon skirt and cape, handsome black and white silk bodice, smart white hats; Miss Webster, brown cloth, stylish black hat; Miss G. Webster, electric blue cloth, pink silk collar and waistcoat, large black chiffon hat trimmed with pink roses; Miss E. Ulrich, stylish fawn tweed, waistcoat of shot silk, dainty white beaver hat trimmed with ostrich tips; Miss Roberts, brown serge lavishly trimmed with pink flowered silk, brown hat to match; Miss L. Roberts, blue cloth jacket and skirt, white waistcoat, small hat with black lace and buttercups; Miss Sise, black crepon, white brocade yoke, large black hat; Miss M. Sise, black crepon skirt, stylish shot silk blouse, large black hat with pink roses; Miss MacLean, pink spotted muslin trimmed with lace, large brown chip hat; Miss Gratham, black crepon trimmed with black satin ribbon, small black hat with shot ribbon bows; Miss S. Graham, checked tweed, black hat; Miss Harding (Wellington), black crepon skirt and cape, shot silk blouse, hat to suit; Miss Harding, white delaine trimmed with lace; Miss Smart (Brough and Boucicault Company), flecked skirt, white sailor hat; Miss Faber (Brough and Boucicault Company), dark shirt red silk blouse, sailor hat; Miss Reynolds, black serge; Miss — Reynolds, cornflower blue serge skirt, hat to match; Miss Driver, black crepon, stylish black toque; Miss — Drive, holland skirt and jacket, white hat and feathers, and many others too numerous to mention.

On Thursday the

ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW,

took place in the Tahuna Park. The day was a most beautiful one, the result being that about 1,500 people were on the grounds. The show was an unusually good one and the number present quite beat the record. Numerous dainty costumes were to be seen there, but I have not space to enlarge on them. The evening of the same day there was the usual race ball.

A small but smart

CINDERELLA DANCE

was got up by Mrs Stephenson, and was held at St. Matthew's schoolroom. The stage and hall were very prettily decorated with flags and greenery, etc. The supper, which was a magnificent one, was all supplied by the ladies of St. Matthew's church.

Several luncheons, afternoon teas, etc., have been given to Mrs Brough and other ladies of the Brough and Boucicault Company.

On Friday evening Mrs Ritchie gave a delightful dance for Miss Cunningham (Christchurch), who is at present staying with her. I am afraid that I shall have to reserve news of this dance, and races to-day until next week, as my letter is already over long.

AILEEN.

PICTON.

DEAR BEE, NOVEMBER 26.

On Wednesday Mrs Duncan gave a very delightful

AFTERNOON TEA

at her residence on the Waikawa Road. Mrs Duncan was in black silk; Mrs Smith, who helped her mother to entertain, wore a black skirt and checked silk blouse; Mrs Richardson (Wellington), brown tweed trimmed with velvet, hat to match; Mrs McIntyre, brown costume, with cream Maltese lace scarf and bonnet; Mrs H. A. Dobson (our latest bride) wore a grey skirt, pink blouse with black velvet collar and cuffs, hat to match; Mrs Stowe was in black, with pretty jet bonnet; Mrs Andrews, black crepon with yellow silk; Miss Speed, black and white checked costume; Miss M. Speed, black skirt, pale blue silk blouse, three quarter cape lined with pale blue silk and hat *en suite*; Miss N. Allen, heather tweed, with green velvet bands and bows; Miss Conolly (Auckland land), grey tweed costume; Miss Scott, fawn trimmed with braid and silk; Miss May Greensill, green costume with white vest and long jacket; Miss E. Greensill, red skirt and delaine blouse; Miss S. Gard, tweed costume with green vest, and hat trimmed with green and pink; Miss Philpotts, black skirt, yellow silk blouse, and Eton jacket; Miss S. Philpotts, navy skirt, white muslin blouse prettily made with a large collar; Miss M. Seymour, pretty brown tweed costume, black sailor hat; Miss K. Seymour, navy blue costume with sailor hat to match. The delicious Scotch shortbread, scones and other dainties were all done justice to by the guests.

THE READING SOCIETY

held their weekly meeting at Mrs Speed's residence, there being present Mrs Speed, Mrs Howard, Mrs Seely, Mrs Allen, and the Misses Speed (two), Allen, Greensill, B. Greensill, Millington, Linton, Conolly (Auckland), Balfour, Seymour (two), Seely (two), Jackson, etc. Mr Howard lectured on Geoffrey Chaucer's life, dressing the dry bones of history with a few of the poet's quaint descriptions of the travellers to Canterbury.

A pleasant

AFTERNOON TEA

was given by Mrs Philpotts at 'Ascham' on Saturday, those present being Mrs and the Misses Philpotts (two), Mr and Mrs Stowe, Mrs Richardson (Wellington), Mrs and Miss Gard, Miss Conolly (Auckland), Miss E. Greensill, Misses (H. C.) Seymour (three), Miss Nora Allen, Miss Fell, etc.

On Saturday evening the Excelsior Society gave an impromptu

SOCIAL

in the Borough School. The Society had made preparations for receiving the Blenheim school girls for a rounder match, but that erratic individual who superintends the weather turned on a fresh supply of rain, and so the match did not eventuate, but instead thereof a pleasant little gathering met in the school with the teachers for chaperones, and sang, danced, and played games.

Mr Greensill has been returned as Mayor for Picton unopposed. The retiring Mayor (Mr Thomas Philpotts) has ably filled the chair of Picton State for the past two years and given the greatest satisfaction to everybody, his business abilities being unquestionable, and his hospitality unbounded. We all wish Mr and Mrs Philpotts another happy Mayoralty reign in the future. This year there will be no Mayoress, but the Misses Greensill are capable and charming substitutes, and 'Brooklyn' is a household word for hospitality.

So far there has been no tennis here. The only asphalt court had perforce to be resigned, and the private grass courts are in too spongy a condition to be used.

The Waitohia won their second

CUP MATCH

this season on Saturday. The match was played at Renwick, Town against the Renwick Club, on cocoanut matting, and was a new experience to our boys, who won with five wickets to spare.

The continuous rains have brought down some landslips, one of which covered up a part of the railway line, and the passengers to and from Blenheim have had to go through some gymnastics to get to their destination this last week, as it took some time to clear away the obstruction.

JEAN.

NELSON.

DEAR BEE, NOVEMBER 20.

A very delightful

AFTERNOON TEA

was given last Wednesday by Mrs Sealy in honour of Mrs Vining. A very pleasant time was spent in chatting, music, etc., delicious tea and dainty cakes being handed round during the afternoon. Those who contributed towards the music were Mrs Howie, Miss K. Fell, and Miss F. Sealy. Mrs Sealy received her guests gowned in a pretty black crêpon trimmed with jet, dainty cap; Miss Sealy, stylish black figured gown, with yellow lace yoke and under sleeves over silk; Miss F. Sealy, pretty blue and pink stuff gown, with blue bishop's sleeves and yoke; Mrs Vining wore a becoming brown cloth gown with cape of same lined with heliotrope, stylish little floral bonnet of violets; Mrs A. Glasgow, fine blue serge jacket and skirt, pretty blouse of pale blue veiled with accordion pleated chiffon, dainty black toque with white roses; Mrs Pitt, black, and lace cape, pretty pink and black bonnet; Mrs Howie, black costume, jet bonnet; Mrs Blackett, black figured gown, dainty bonnet of black with heliotrope flower at the side; Mrs R. Kingdon, black serge coat and skirt, green silk blouse veiled in accordion pleated chiffon, black toque with poppies; Mrs Chatterton, grey cloth skirt and jacket, white blouse, black hat with feathers; the Misses Fell (two), black serge jackets and skirts, pink blouses, sailor hats; Miss Curtis, tweed gown, black hat with red poppies; Miss Cock, check tweed, black mantle, small bonnet; Miss M. Cock, fawn costume, white and black hat; Mrs Cooke, black and white costume, large black hat with daisies; Miss Broad, black serge jacket and skirt, pink waistcoat, sailor hat; Miss Hunter-Brown, pretty and stylish green and white checked gown trimmed with white silk, large white hat; Miss Heaps, black serge coat and skirt, white blouse, black feather hat; Miss Gribbon, pretty grey blouse, dark skirt, sailor hat; Mrs Pogson, black costume and bonnet.

The annual

SPRING FLOWER SHOW

of the Nelson Horticultural Society was held on Wednesday and Thursday. The weather for the last fortnight has been perfectly dreadful, either blowing or raining, and often both together, so that the flowers were not so nice as on former years. However, considering the state of the elements, the number of exhibits was very good. The attendance was not so large, but among others I noticed Mrs and Miss Glasgow, Miss H. Glasgow, Mrs L. Adams, Mrs Bunny, Mrs Blackett, Mrs Wood, Mrs Gully, Mrs Prenhaw, Mrs and Miss Mackay, Miss Higgins, Mrs R. Kingdon, Mrs and Miss Webb-Bowen, Miss Armstrong (Masterton), Misses Fell (two), Miss Heaps, Miss Bell, Mrs and Miss Bell, Mrs Mackie, Mrs and Miss Poole, Mrs Macquarie, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Scaife, Miss Catley, Miss Huddlestone, Mrs and Miss Pitt, Miss Curtis, Misses Jones (two), Miss Moore, and Miss Gannaway.

PHYLLIS

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THE WHEELS.

SEE the ladies on the wheels—
Happy wheels!
What a bored society this latest craze reveals!
How they twinkle, twinkle, twinkle,
Up and down the dusty track!
With here and there a 'sprinkle,'
And a smart frock all a-wrinkle,
With the dust upon its back.
How they turn, turn, turn,
In a sort of social churn,
Keeping tune in rythmic measure with their dainty toes and heels,
To the wheels, wheels, wheels, wheels,
Wheels, wheels, wheels—
To the whirring, and the whirling of the wheels.

See the 'Arry's whizzing wheels—
Furious wheels!
What a bounder's paradise their lightning pace reveals!
Through the suburbs in the night,
How they shriek out their delight!
With their fiendish root-a-toot,
And none too soon,
What a sudden fear they shoot
Through the ancient dame that hastens o'er the route,
Like to swoon!
Oh, upon those bounding wheels,
What a knickerbockered howler arrogantly squeals!
How he peals!
And congeals
All the heart-blood! How he steals
On the passenger that reels,
At the flashing and the dashing
Of the wheels, wheels, wheels,
Of the wheels, wheels, wheels, wheels,
Wheels, wheels, wheels—
At the rushing and the crushing of the wheels!

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